

1ST TNNLU NATIONAL MED-ARB COMPETITION-2019

[8th March- 10th March 2019]

The Alternate Dispute Resolution Committee (ADRC) of Tamil Nadu National Law University successfully hosted the 1st edition of TNNLU National Med-Arb Competition in association with the Nani Palkivala Arbitration Centre, Chennai from 8th March- 10th March 2019. TNNLU is the first law University in India to conduct such Med-Arb competition, a two-step dispute resolution process in which parties attempt to resolve their dispute in mediation, and, if they fail to resolve some or all of their issues, the remaining issues are automatically submitted to arbitration where the arbitrator imposes a binding decision. The competition included a unique element of arbitral award writing which is prepared by the arbitrator/mediator after the oral submissions of both the parties in the arbitration session. This arbitral award was also judged in the competition which makes TNNLU the first among all the Universities in the country to organize such a competition



on arbitral award making. Various teams from private colleges and national law universities across the country took part in the competition. The competition aimed at honing the decision making and award drafting skills of the arbitrators as well as the skill of negotiating and conducting mediations by mediators. The participants

were judged by eminent arbitrators, academicians and lawyers from across the country.

The event commenced on 8th March 2019 with the registration of the participating teams and was followed by an inaugural ceremony, wherein the Vice Chancellor of TNNLU, Prof. Dr. Kamala Sankaran emphasized the importance of skills in arbitration and mediation. This was followed by a short orientation program by the ADRC committee. The participants were allotted their opponents by picking of lots and the exchange of memorials happened on the same day.

The preliminary round-I and preliminary round-II took place on 9th March. Participants from 8 universities qualified for the semifinals. The semifinal and the final rounds were held on 10th March. The participants were qualified for the finals on the basis of merit in the semifinals. Participants from 4 different universities qualified for the final round.



The finalists were judged by:

- Registered mediators at the Madras High Court - Ms. Pushpa Sitaraman, Mr. Vijaya Krishnan and Ms. Uma Ramanathan,
- Independent arbitrator & Practising Advocate, Madras High Court- Mr. Inba Vijayan
- Designated Senior Advocate Founding Director, NPAC- Mr. N.L. Rajah.
- Arbitrator, HSB partner- Ms. Priyadarshini Natarajan



The winning client-counsel team was from Alliance University, Bangalore and the winning mediator/arbitrator was from Symbiosis Law School, Noida. The runner-up client–counsel team was from Symbiosis Law School, Noida and the runner-up mediator/arbitrator was from Symbiosis Law School, Hyderabad. The best memorial award was given to participants from School of Excellence in Law, Chennai. The best client-counsel teams was from Alliance University and the best Mediator/Arbitrator was from Christ University, Bangalore.

The winning teams were honored with trophies and total cash prizes worth INR 47,000/-.